

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 00715 142027Z
ACTION VO-03

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4075

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 0715

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PFOR, CVIS, JM, US
SUBJECT: JAMAICAN INVESTOR IMMIGRATION VISAS

REFERENCE: A. STATE 24464 B. KINGSTON 349

1. WITH ONE EXCEPTION NOTED BELOW, EMBASSY RELUCTANTLY ACCEPTS DEPARTMENT'S REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDANCE RE HANDLING JAMAICAN INVESTOR IMMIGRANT VISA PROCESSING. EXCEPTION IS THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO CONSULT WITH GOJ. SUCH A DISCUSSION WOULD TRIGGER THE SITUATION WE FEAR EARLIER THAN MIGHT OTHERWISE BE THE CASE RATHER THAN SOFTEN GOJ ATTITUDES. GOJ'S PERCEPTION OF OUR CONCERN WOULD HIGHLIGHT FOR THEM AN EXPLOITABLE SOFTSPOT.

2. RELATED TO FOREGOING COMMENTS, WE DO WISH AGAIN UNDERLINE THE PROBLEM WE MAY FACE IN COMING MONTHS:

(A) ARRESTS OF JAMAICAN HOLDERS OF INVESTOR IMMIGRANT VISAS AS "ECONOMIC CRIMINALS";

(B) REQUESTS FROM THE JAMAICAN AUTHORITIES FOR OUR FILES ON APPLICANTS (WHICH WE WILL REFUSE);

(C) PUBLIC ALLEGATIONS BY THE GOJ (PERHAPS INDIRECTLY THROUGH GOJ CONTROLLED MEDIA) OF US COLLUSION IN THE COMMISSION OF ECONOMIC CRIMES AGAINST THE PEOPLE,
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GOVERNMENT, AND STATE OF JAMAICA; AND

(D) POSSIBLY THE PNG-ING OF SOME OF OUR VISA OFFICERS.

3. BEYOND THE FOREGOING, PRACTICAL INABILITY TO PROTECT THOSE WHO RECEIVE INVESTOR VISAS FROM ARREST AT THE AIRPORT (E.G. VISA PACKETS WILL BE SEARCHED AND SEIZED

AS EVIDENCE) PROBABLY WILL LEAD TO SHARP INCREASE IN
STATUS ADJUSTMENT APPLICATIONS IN THE US BY JAMAICANS
ALREADY HOLDING B-1 OR B-2 NIVS. THOSE WHO CANNOT
IMMEDIATELY QUALIFY FOR STATUS ADJUSTMENT ARE LIKELY TO
REQUEST POLITICAL ASYLUM ON GROUNDS NEW ECONOMIC CRIMES
REGULATIONS ARE BEING USED AS POLITICAL WEAPON AGAINST
JAMAICA'S MIDDLE CLASS. WE ARE NOT SUGGESTING THAT SUCH
ASYLUM REQUESTS BE HONORED (AT LEAST AT THIS TIME). BUT
IT IS FAIR TO SAY A VERY HIGH PROPORTION OF JAMAICA'S
MIDDLE CLASS POSSESSES ASSETS IN US SUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY
ECONOMIC CRIMES PROSECUTION.
GERARD

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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SAS ID: 3330110
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